

BULLETIN: For Wednesday, March 12, 2025
www.BelmontRotaryClub.com

Club Meeting

Belmont First Presbyterian Church
102 S. Central Ave.
Belmont, NC 28012
Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM

Speakers

March 12th
Sheriff Chad Hawkins

Gaston County Sheriff Chad Hawkins will present today's program, which will be hosted by Rotarian Jennifer Grant.



March 19th
Speaker and program topic TBA.

Rotarian Chad Hammond will host the program.

March 26th
Speaker and program topic TBA.

Rotarian Don Hartsoe will host the program.

April 2nd
Tom Quigley
Eminent Domain Law Firm

Mr. Quigley is the business development officer at the firm, and he will speak on land condemnation negotiations with the government. Rotarian Mike McKeever will host the program.



LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

Mite takes the guesswork out of giving

Wednesday, March 5, 2025



Birthdays

 Gary E. McCord
March 12th

Wedding Anniversaries


No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Club Officers

 Kenneth J Pahon
President-Elect
President

 Jennifer Grant
Treasurer

 Bradford R. Frazier
President-Nominee

 Ted B. Hall
Public Relations/Image Chair

 Michelle Petty
Membership Chair

Thomas M. Hunter III
iPast President



District Officers



Kevin Kendrick
District Governor



Donna M. Moffett
DG - Elect



Laurel Roe Morris
Assistant
Governor- Gaston
County



Madison Toal Illges (center), executive director of Mite, a nonprofit organization in Belmont devoted to ensuring the money donors give to causes Mite promotes is appropriately used, spoke recently at a Belmont Rotary Club meeting. At left is Abigail Toal, a project coordinator at Mite. Rotarian Ted Hall hosted the program.

"We educate donors about what they're giving to and how their money is being used. We believe giving should be more transparent and verifiable."

**-- Madison Toal Illges
Executive Director
Mite.org**

Everyone in the room raised a hand when Madison Illges began her presentation to the Belmont Rotary Club by asking, "How many have donated to a project of a non-profit organization?"

And most hands stayed up when her next question was: "And how many have ever wondered whether the money you donated achieved the results you intended?"

Madison is executive director of Mite, a non-profit in Belmont, and she explained that her organization's mission is to assure donors that their contributions are appropriately used. Mite works on projects with non-profits all over the world and close to home from offices in the National Mill at 710 Catawba Street in Belmont.

The name Mite comes from the widow's mite Bible story as told in Mark 12:41-44 in which a poor widow gives less than a penny while the rich were making a show of giving much more, and Jesus said the widow's gift was more meaningful because she had given all she had.



Madison's father, Scott Toal, is the founder and president of Mite. Scott and his brother D.J. own Bisque Imports, Short Run Pro, Federal Brace and other businesses located in former Belmont textile mills they have purchased, renovated and repurposed.

"We educate donors about what they're giving to and how their money is being used," Madison told Rotarians. "We believe giving should be more transparent and verifiable."

Before taking on a project, Mite staff members dig deeply into the validity of the mission and the history and finances of the non-profit organization behind it. The partners Mite works with must maintain a 73% or higher program ratio and agree to a Memorandum of Understanding that sets out project details and partnership expectations.

Mite has worked on projects as close to home as Western North Carolina and as far away as Africa. Sixty-four completed projects are currently shown on the Mite website, and four



projects are active now. Madison said most projects take six to eight months to complete.

When a project concludes, Mite sends a team, including a videographer, to verify that the promised outcomes have been achieved. And a detailed report is posted on the Mite website. Madison has traveled to 23 countries on behalf of Mite.

No funds contributed to Mite projects are used to support Mite operations, Madison said. Instead, a separate Mighty Fund has been established to cover the organization's operating costs.

To read about Mite projects, learn more about the organization and have the option to make donations, visit [**www.Mite.org**](http://www.Mite.org).